Wallace Edgar Pierce

LATE A REPRESENTATIVE
FROM NEW YORK

MEMORIAL ADDRESSES
DELIVERED IN CONGRESS

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U.S. 76th Cong., 3d sess., 1940. House

Memorial Services

HELD IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE UNITED STATES, TOGETHER WITH
REMARKS PRESENTED IN EULOGY OF

Wallace Edgar Pierce

LATE A REPRESENTATIVE
FROM NEW YORK

Seventy-sixth Congress
Third Session

UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
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Biography

WALLACE EDGAR PIERCE was born in the town of Black Brook, Clinton County, N. Y., December 9, 1881; attended the rural schools; was graduated from the Plattsburg (N. Y.) State Normal School in 1903; taught school in Clinton County, N. Y., and later in the Ogdensburg (N. Y.) High School; served as secretary to Congressman George R. Malby 1909–1912 and to Congressman Edwin A. Merritt 1912–1914; studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1913, and commenced practice in Plattsburg, N. Y., in 1914; member of the State assembly 1916–1920; served as president of the board of visitors of the Plattsburg State Normal School 1926–1940; chairman of the Clinton County Republican committee 1926–1939; member of the New York State Republican executive committee 1934–1940; elected as a Republican to the Seventy-sixth Congress and served from January 3, 1939, until his death in Washington, D. C., January 3, 1940; interment in Riverside Cemetery, Plattsburg, N. Y.

In the House of Representatives

MONDAY, *March 25, 1940.*

Mr. BULWINKLE. Mr. Speaker, I have sent to the Clerk's desk the usual resolution providing for memorial services for deceased Members of Congress to be held on Wednesday, April 24, and I ask its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

House Resolution 437

Resolved, That on Wednesday, the 24th day of April 1940, immediately after the approval of the Journal, the House shall stand at recess for the purpose of holding the memorial services as arranged by the Committee on Memorials, under the provisions of clause 40–A of rule XI. The order of exercises and proceedings of the service shall be printed in the Congressional Record, and all Members shall have leave to extend their remarks in the Congressional Record until the last issue of the Record of the third session of the Seventy-sixth Congress, on the life, character, and public service of the deceased Members. At the conclusion of the proceedings the Speaker shall call the House to order, and then, as a further mark of respect to the memories of the deceased, he shall declare the House adjourned.

* * * * *

The resolution was agreed to.

Memorial Services
in the
House of Representatives

Seventy-sixth Congress
Third Session

Memorial Service Program

Prelude, sacred selections (11:15 to 11:45)
United States Marine Band Orchestra

Presiding Officer_____ The Speaker of the House of Representatives

Invocation_____ The Chaplain, Dr. James Shera Montgomery

Scripture reading and prayer_____ The Chaplain

There Is No Death (Geoffrey O'Hara)_____ Thomas L. Thomas

Roll of deceased Members
The Clerk of the House of Representatives

Devotional silence

The Living God (Geoffrey O'Hara)_____ Bill Perry

Address_____ Hon. Harry P. Beam
Representative from the State of Illinois

Then Shall the Righteous Shine Forth (Felix Mendelssohn)_
Bill Perry

Address_____ Hon. Roy O. Woodruff
Representative from the State of Michigan

The Old Rugged Cross (Bennard)_____ Thomas L. Thomas

Taps_____ Winfred Kemp

Benediction_____ The Chaplain

Wallace Edgar Pierce

Memorial Services

WEDNESDAY, *April 24, 1940.*

The SPEAKER pro tempore of the House of Representatives (Mr. Rayburn) presided.

The Chaplain, Dr. Montgomery:

Almighty God unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love Thee, and worthily magnify Thy holy name—Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The eternal God is Thy refuge and underneath are the everlasting arms.

Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Jesus said, I am the resurrection and the life; He that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live and whosoever believeth in Me shall never die.

The righteous live forever and the care of them is with the Most High: With His right hand shall He cover them and with His arm shall He shield them.

For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

Lord, Thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations, before the mountains were brought forth or ever Thou hast formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting Thou art God. For a thousand years in Thy

sight are as yesterday when they are past, and as a watch in the night. Thou carriest them away as with a flood; They are as a sleep; In the morning they are like grass which groweth up; In the evening it is cut down and withereth. So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom. Let Thy work appear unto Thy servants, and Thy glory unto their children. And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us and establish the works of our hands upon us; Yea, the works of our hands establish Thou it.

Let not your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you, for I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto Myself, that where I am there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know. Thomas saith unto Him, Lord, we know not whither Thou goest; and how can we know the way. Jesus saith unto him, I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

Serene, I fold my hands and wait,
  Nor care for wind, or tide, or sea.
I rave no more 'gainst time or fate,
  For, lo! my own shall come to me.

I stay my haste, I make delays,
  For what avails this eager pace?
I stand amid the eternal ways
  And what is mine shall know my face.

Asleep, awake, by night or day,
  The friends I seek are seeking me;
No wind can drive my bark astray,
  Nor change the tide of destiny.

What matter if I stand alone?
  I wait with joy the future years.
My heart shall reap where it hath sown,
  And garner up its fruit of tears.

The stars come nightly to the sky,
  The tidal wave unto the sea;
Nor time, nor space, nor deep, nor high,
  Can keep my own away from me.

Oh, Thou in whose presence our souls take delight, on whom in affliction we call, Thou wert our fathers' God. In the darkness Thou gavest them light, in danger, succor, and in uncertainty, guidance. The light of Thy word was their inspiration, "Be strong and of good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed, for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest." O let us hear the carol in the clouds, view the rock amid the waves, and see the star in the valley. Lead us, oh, Christ, in the toilsome way of Gethsemane and Calvary, and in all our needs give us strength and grace. Bless Thou the memory of those who have wrought well and passed on. Unto all hearts that are bowed down today, minister unto them the comfort and the consolations of Thy richest blessings.

We are reminded, dear Lord, that our days are swiftly passing by. Yesterday we were not, tomorrow we shall be gone. O how changing are the fortunes of life—laughter and tears, melody and lamentation. Mid the fleeing shadows, O may the good angels sing the song of hope in every breast. In our dear Redeemer's name. Amen.

Mr. Thomas L. Thomas sang "There Is No Death," by Geoffrey O'Hara.

ROLL OF DECEASED MEMBERS

Mr. Roger M. Calloway, reading clerk of the House, read the following roll:

MARVEL MILLS LOGAN, a Senator from the State of Kentucky: Lawyer; educator; county attorney, Edmonson County, 1902–03; Attorney General of Kentucky, 1916–17; Judge, Kentucky Court of Appeals, 1926–31; Chief Justice, 1931; chairman Democratic State Convention, 1916; elected to the United States Senate in 1930, and again in 1936. Died October 3, 1939.

WILLIAM EDGAR BORAH, a Senator from the State of Idaho: Lawyer; distinguished orator; member of the Republican National Committee, 1908–12; delegate, Republican National Convention, 1912; elected to the United States Senate in 1907, and served 32 years and 10 months; was chairman of the Senate Committees on Foreign Relations, and Education and Labor; dean of the Senate from 1933 until the day of his death, January 19, 1940.

BERT LORD, Thirty-fourth Congressional District of New York: Merchant; member New York Assembly, 1915–22, 1924–29; motor vehicle commissioner for the State of New York, 1921–23; State Senator, 1929–35; Member of the Seventy-fourth, Seventy-fifth, and Seventy-sixth Congresses. Died May 24, 1939.

EMMETT MARSHALL OWEN, Fourth Congressional District of Georgia: Lawyer; member, Georgia Legislature, 1902–06; solicitor, City Court of Zebulon, 1908–12; Solicitor General, Flint Judicial Circuit, 1913–23; Solicitor General, Griffin Judicial Circuit, 1923–33; Member of the Seventy-third and each succeeding Congress. Died June 21, 1939.

HARRY WILBUR GRISWOLD, Third Congressional District of Wisconsin: Farmer; educator; member, State Board of Vocational Education, 1930–36; served in the State Senate from 1932 to 1936; Member of the Seventy-sixth Congress. Died July 4, 1939.

SAMUEL DAVIS MCREYNOLDS, Third Congressional District of Tennessee: Lawyer; Judge of the Sixth Judicial Circuit of the State of Tennessee, 1903–22; Member of the Sixty-eighth and each succeeding Congress; American delegate to the International Monetary and Economic Conference, in London, 1933; chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs. Died July 11, 1939.

THOMAS MARION EATON, Eighteenth Congressional District of California: Businessman; educator; served in the United States Navy during the World War; member, City Council, Long Beach, Calif., 1934–36; mayor of Long Beach, 1936–38; Member of the Seventy-sixth Congress. Died September 16, 1939.

THOMAS SANDERS MCMILLAN, First Congressional District of South Carolina: Farmer; educator; member, South Carolina House of Representatives, 1916–24; speaker, 1923–24; Member of the Sixty-ninth and each succeeding Congress; member of the Committee on Appropriations. Died September 29, 1939.

CHESTER CASTLE BOLTON, Twenty-second Congressional District of Ohio: Businessman; captain, United States Army Reserve Corps, serving successively with the War Industries Board, aide to the Assistant Secretary of War, and on the General Staff of the War Department; lieutenant colonel, Assistant Chief of Staff of the One Hundred and First Division; member of the Ohio Senate, 1923–28; Member of the Seventy-first and each succeeding Congress. Died October 29, 1939.

JAMES WILLIS TAYLOR, Second Congressional District of Tennessee: Lawyer; postmaster, La Follette, Tenn., 1904–09; mayor of La Follette, 1910–13; insurance commissioner, State of Tennessee, 1913–14; chairman, Republican State Executive Committee, 1917–18; Member of the Sixty-sixth and each succeeding Congress; ranking

minority member of the Committee on Immigration and Naturalization. Died November 14, 1939.

CARL EDGAR MAPES, Fifth Congressional District of Michigan: Lawyer; member, Michigan House of Representatives, 1905–07; member, State Senate, 1909–13; elected to the Sixty-third and each succeeding Congress; ranking minority member of the Committees on Rules and on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. Died December 12, 1939.

WILLIAM IRVING SIROVICH, Fourteenth Congressional District of New York: Physician and surgeon; fellow, American College of Surgeons, 1924; awarded the Distinguished Service Medal, Columbia University Alumni Association, 1932; Member of the Seventieth and each succeeding Congress; chairman of the Committee on Patents. Died December 17, 1939.

JOHN ANDREW MARTIN, Third Congressional District of Colorado: Lawyer, editor; soldier; member, Colorado Assembly, 1901–02; Pueblo city attorney, 1905–07; Member of the Sixty-first and Sixty-second Congresses, retiring voluntarily; during the World War served as a major, Fortieth Division; Member of the Seventy-third and each succeeding Congress. Died December 23, 1939.

WILLIAM ALBERT ASHBROOK, Seventeenth Congressional District of Ohio: Editor; banker; farmer; publisher of the Johnstown Independent since 1885; postmaster, Johnstown, 1893–97; member, Ohio House of Representatives, 1904–05; Member of the Sixtieth through the Sixty-sixth Congresses, also the Seventy-fourth and each succeeding Congress. Died January 1, 1940.

GEORGE HENRY HEINKE, First Congressional District of Nebraska: Lawyer; graduate, University of Nebraska, 1908; county attorney, Otoe County, 1919–23, 1927–35; Member of the Seventy-sixth Congress; served on the Committees on Election of the President, Vice President, and Representatives in Congress; Labor; and the Territories. Died January 2, 1940.

WALLACE EDGAR PIERCE, Thirty-first Congressional District of New York: Lawyer; member, New York Bar Association; member, New York Assembly, 1917–19; chairman, Clinton County Republican Committee; member, New York State Republican Committee; elected to the Seventy-sixth Congress; served on the Committee on the Judiciary. Died January 3, 1940.

EDWARD WALTER CURLEY, Twenty-second Congressional District of New York: Builder and contractor; member of the Board of Aldermen, New York City, 1916–35; chairman or ranking member

of all major committees of the board; elected to the Seventy-fourth and each succeeding Congress; member of the Committees on Labor, Civil Service, Election of the President, Vice President, and Representatives in Congress; and Invalid Pensions. Died January 6, 1940.

CASSIUS CLAY DOWELL, Sixth Congressional District of Iowa: Lawyer; member, Iowa House of Representatives, 1894–98; member, State senate, 1902–12; Member of the Sixty-fourth through the Seventy-third, Seventy-fifth and Seventy-sixth Congresses; ranking minority member of the Committee on the Territories. Died February 4, 1940.

CLYDE HAROLD SMITH, Second Congressional District of Maine: Educator; member, State house of representatives, 1899–1903, 1919–23; State senator, 1923–29; chairman, State Highway Commission, 1928–32; member, Governor's Council, Fourth District, 1933–37; elected to the Seventy-fifth and the Seventy-sixth Congresses. Died April 8, 1940.

SANTIAGO IGLESIAS, a Resident Commissioner from the Territory of Puerto Rico: Labor organizer; editor; founder of the Free Federation of Workingmen in Puerto Rico, 1898; member, Puerto Rican senate, 1917–32; edited the Porvenir Social, 1898–1900, Union Obera, 1903–06 and Justicia, 1914–25; Resident Commissioner from 1932 until his death December 5, 1939.

Mrs. NORTON, a Representative from the State of New Jersey, standing in front of the Speaker's rostrum, placed a memorial rose in a vase as the name of each deceased Member was read by the Clerk.

Then followed 1 minute of devotional silence.

Mr. Bill Perry sang "The Living God," by Geoffrey O'Hara.

Hon. HARRY P. BEAM, a Representative from the State of Illinois, delivered the following address:

ADDRESS BY HON. HARRY P. BEAM

Mr. BEAM. Mr. Speaker, today we assemble in solemn conclave to pay honor and tribute to our dead. No question of state or parliamentary controversy can disturb the tranquillity of the occasion as we recall with fond and happy recollection the close and intimate association we enjoyed

in the crucible of public service with our departed colleagues, who now rest forever in the calm and peaceful bosom of eternity.

Of all the events in life, death, with its mysterious realism, is the most startling and dramatic. No one can stand in its awful presence and not be moved to a deeper and more abiding solicitude for the rights of our fellow man; nor can one encounter its grim realities without becoming more tolerant, more sympathetic, more understanding of the frailties of human nature and without a deeper conscientious realization of our own imperfection and mortality.

How fleeting is time and how transitory and temporal is the applause of the people or the honors and dignities conferred upon man in the short span of human life. And what a stern realization of that fact have we before us today, as we listen in vain for voices we knew so well to respond to the roll call who but a short yesterday were active participators in the deliberations of our body and wielded vast and far-reaching influence in the formation of the legislative program of the Nation.

> Away. We know that tears are vain,
> That Death nor heeds nor hears distress:
> Will this unteach us to complain?
> Or make one mourner weep the less?
> And thou, who tellst me to forget,
> Thy looks are wan, thine eyes are wet.

Our colleagues whose untimely passing we commemorate today were privileged to serve their country during some of the most crucial and fateful years in the history of the Republic.

During their official service as Members of the Congress of the United States they viewed with alarm and deep concern the grave uncertainty and distress which engulfed the citizenship of our land. During those early days of the depression they observed their fellow citizens in mass formation storm the very doors of the Nation's Capitol, demanding food

and shelter for themselves and for their families. They witnessed the bankruptcy of agriculture, the prostration of business, the failure of thousands of banking institutions throughout the land, the foreclosure of countless homes and farms, the sorry and desperate plight of the wage earner and the farmer, and the prevailing fear and trepidation which seemed to strike at the very heart and sinews of our American national life.

Our departed colleagues, with undismayed courage and a high conception of American statesmanship faced their grave responsibility and contributed generously and unreservedly of their sagacious counsel, and their profound knowledge and wisdom, in devising ways and means to remedy these oppressing conditions and to relieve the circumstances which were well-nigh overwhelming the moral courage and grim fortitude of our people.

They were active participators in the great emergency program to revive agriculture, to furnish governmental aid, and financial assistance to business and industry, and to restore confidence and security in our banking system. They actively assisted in the enactment of laws to alleviate the suffering of our citizens and were contributors to all social legislation for the welfare of the poor and underprivileged of our land.

Our departed colleagues were privileged to serve in the Congress of the United States during the rise of the dictators and witnessed the tremendous growth of the nefarious doctrines of communism and nazi-ism, and saw them become the dominant policy and religion, so to speak, of countless numbers of heretofore God-fearing men and women of great nations of the world.

They observed in their lifetime the war clouds again hover over the nations of Europe, threatening to engulf the entire world once more in conflagration. They witnessed the march of the highly mechanized and modernized armies of the dictators against countries ill-equipped for war, and by fire and sword saw them conquer and destroy nations, subject their

citizens to a lifetime of sorrow and misery, and bury forever the last vestige of hope for liberty and freedom for untold millions of human beings.

Robert Ingersoll, appearing before the tomb of Napoleon, expressed himself in the following words:

> I would rather have been a French peasant and worn wooden shoes. I would rather have lived in a hut with a vine growing over the door, and the grapes growing purple in the amorous kisses of the autumn sun. I would rather have been that poor peasant, with my loving wife by my side, knitting as the day died out of the sky, with my children upon my knees and their arms about me. I would rather have been that man, and gone down to the tongueless silence of the dreamless dust, than to have been that imperial impersonation of force and murder, known as Napoleon the Great.

I pause and wonder, my fellow colleagues, when at some time in the future, when these dictators who have caused the pangs of war to again cloud the happiness and peace of the world are summoned to embark on that fateful voyage, from which no traveler returneth, what complacency of thought, what peace of mind and heart can be theirs. When the very shrouds which enwrap their cold and lifeless clay shall be drenched with the blood and tears of countless numbers of human beings, decreed by them to a vale of misery, suffering, famine, pestilence, and death.

> The garlands wither on your brow;
> Then boast no more your mighty deeds;
> Upon death's purple altar now
> See where the victor—victim bleeds;
> Your heads must come
> To the cold tomb;
> Only the actions of the just
> Smell sweet, and blossom in their dust.

What a sad commentary of fate that in this age of enlightenment, of intellectual development, of cultural advancement, and of great scientific discoveries—all for the happiness and betterment of mankind—that the people of the world should again be plunged into the horrors and terrors of war, with all the resulting suffering and misery therein entailed.

From the sad plight and appalling despair of these unfortunate nations, let us resolve that, from the hallowed ashes of our departed colleagues, never again shall we vote to plunge America into a foreign holocaust of war, or ever again consecrate any foreign soil with the lifeblood of our American youth, to save or preserve the integrity of any foreign monarchy, dynasty, or power.

America will fight only for America, and to keep inviolate our priceless heritage of liberty and freedom, and the preservation of our democratic form of government.

These were the ideals, my fellow citizens, our departed colleagues cherished and sustained in their lifetime, and for the love of which they nobly laid down their lives. As distinguished Members of Congress, they served their country loyally and well, and carved their names high in the annals of American statesmanship. They enjoyed the love and affection of their fellow citizens, and the respect and esteem of their fellow Members of Congress. They have left to their loved ones, and to the Nation, a noble heritage of honor and glory upon the altar of public service.

This is the last time the names of our departed colleagues will ever be officially called from the floor of the Congress of the United States. No more shall we disturb the tranquillity of their slumber; no more shall we derange the peace and calm of their repose; but, with the hallowed love and enduring affection of the Congress of the United States, and the entire Nation, we reconsecrate their tombs with the fervent hopes and prayers of all America that from their noble and revered spirits we may rededicate our efforts to keep aglow the torch of liberty and freedom they so valiantly and patriotically carried in the service of their country, and which they now pass on to us, unsullied and undefiled.

Their love of country, their ardor and devotion to their Nation's welfare, their nobility of character have forever enshrined their memory in a diadem of perpetual light, which will glow, with ever-increasing splendor, in the hearts of their fellow countrymen, long after monuments of granite and

stone have crumbled into dust and decay; and so, with all our heartfelt affection, compassion, and reverence, we fondly say, "Farewell, our beloved colleagues; farewell forever":

Our hearts, our hopes, are all with thee,
Our hearts, our hopes, our prayers, our tears,
Our faith triumphant o'er our fears,
Are all with thee,—are all with thee!

Mr. Bill Perry sang "Then Shall the Righteous Shine Forth" (Felix Mendelssohn).

Hon. ROY O. WOODRUFF, a Representative from the State of Michigan, delivered the following address:

ADDRESS BY HON. ROY O. WOODRUFF, OF MICHIGAN

Mr. WOODRUFF of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, again there has come that day which we dedicate to our colleagues who have crossed over to that mystic realm from which no traveler returns.

Our hearts, of course, are full of thoughts which cannot be expressed in words, and of feelings which we do not even wish to voice here.

The passing of a colleague brings to each and every one of us not only grief at the severing of associations but a somber pondering on the meaning of this enigma of human existence. The mortal sense of life would make of man little more than the grass of the fields, flourishing for a brief season, and then withering away. Compared to eternity the human span is but a twinkling. We are apt to forget that billions of individuals have come and gone; millions who are now living will, in no great stretch of time, join the silent majority.

One may well wonder sometimes whether we take ourselves too seriously on this tiny grain of sand whirling through space in the company of millions of other planets, making up the galaxies of the universe. When we stop to realize by what a narrow margin we cling to that which we call life, we wonder not that some of our colleagues have gone from us, but that more have not gone.

And yet, Mr. Speaker, there is more to life than death. It is inconceivable in logic that those who have toiled here with us, that those who gave of their best to the cause of government, that those who lived and studied and worked and planned for the welfare of their country, their fellow men, and their more immediate loved ones should cease to be when the shadow of death descended over them.

There is no possible human logic to justify any conclusion that death ends the activity of those we have known and loved. An all-powerful, all-wise, all-loving ever-present Creative Intelligence would fulfill no purpose in creating human identities to be born to work, and strive, and laugh, and cry for a brief, fevered instant on this earth, only to pass out and to return to a state of nonbeing. That would be like a child building up a mound of sand but to sweep it away the next instant.

Every tenet of religious faith, every tenet of philosophy, every tenet of logic, every tenet of human hope bids us to be of good cheer because our colleagues, having passed beyond our ken, are not forever blotted out but live on and work on.

None can explain the mystery of death. We can hope. None can reason how or why our colleagues should have been called, except that that is the way of the flesh. But there is vast consolation, Mr. Speaker, in the hope and the faith that our colleagues, somewhere, in some happier realm, labor on, rising ever upward in their striving to attain truth.

So, instead of grieving, I think we can find it in our hearts today to be grateful to infinite love that we were permitted to know our colleagues, to be associated with them, to work with them, and to cherish their memories as we hope those left behind when we go will cherish memories of us.

That great philosopher, that kindly gentleman, that able Justice of the Supreme Court, the late Oliver Wendell Holmes, once put into words the hope and the faith that I would voice to you here today. Said he:

I was walking homeward on Pennsylvania Avenue near the Treasury, and as I looked beyond Sherman's statue to the west the

sky was aflame with scarlet and crimson from the setting sun. But, like the note of downfall in Wagner's opera, below the skyline there came from little globes the pallid discord of electric lights, and I thought to myself the Gotterdammerung will end, and from those globes clustered like evil eggs will come the new masters of the sky. It is like the time in which we live. But, then, I remembered the faith that I partly have expressed, faith in a universe not measured by our fears, a universe that has thought, and more than thought, inside of it, and as I gazed, after the sunset, and above the electric lights, there shone the stars.

And something else that great jurist said I want to repeat to you. It was this:

I think it not improbable that man, like the grub that prepares a chamber for the winged thing it has never seen but is to be—that man may have cosmic destinies that he does not understand. And so beyond the vision of battling races and an impoverished earth I catch a dreaming glimpse of peace.

Who is to say that out of the depth of his wisdom, gained from his lifelong study of profound truths, Oliver Wendell Holmes may not have been right—that man may have cosmic destinies he does not understand. And so beyond the vision of battling races and an impoverished earth we may catch a dreaming glimpse of peace.

It is this beautiful star of human hope, shining above the pallid glare of earth's electric lights, in the blue sky of a universe in which there is thought, and more than thought, that carries us through the storms and the stresses and the sorrows and the sicknesses, and enables us to bear the thought of the parting at death.

It seems to be, Mr. Speaker, the common fate of kings and beggars, of just and unjust, of saint and sinner, that each of us shall sometime embark upon that journey from earth to the far yonder shores of an unknown eternity.

If we believe that death is the end of those personalities whom we have known and loved as our colleagues, then, indeed, is death a truly dreadful event. If, however, we are to believe that those who have preceded us on that mystical journey, clinging to the hand of the Saviour, consciously

trusting in the infinite love of the Creator, are going on to other tasks—higher tasks, mayhap—then death is not the end, but the beginning of life.

So, then, as our hearts today are sad, as our thoughts are somber, as we find in our breasts an aching longing for the touch of hands that have vanished and the sound of voices now stilled, it is rather because of our own loneliness that we grieve, the loss of championship and association that we miss, than for any fear or any belief that our departed and beloved colleagues have been blotted out, or condemned to some oblivion.

Why, Mr. Speaker, what would be the purpose of life, what would be the use of this human struggle, what would be the use of our efforts, what purpose would we serve by our tears or our smiles, if the grave were the end of it all? Ah, no, life is eternal. We must progress onward and upward until we become more aware of that image and likeness in which we are created.

And, so, Mr. Speaker, let us be firm in the hope; let us find comfort in the thought, that our dear departed colleagues have moved further along toward their cosmic destinies which they may not understand, and, as Holmes so beautifully said, beyond the vision of battling races and an impoverished earth, that they have realized that peace of which we here may catch but a dreaming glimpse.

Mr. Thomas L. Thomas sang "The Old Rugged Cross," by Bennard.

Mr. Winfred Kemp, principal musician, United States Marine Band Orchestra, sounded taps.

The Chaplain, Rev. James Shera Montgomery, D. D., pronounced the benediction:

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you; the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace, both now and evermore. Amen.

Memorial Addresses
on
Wallace Edgar Pierce

Memorial Addresses

Remarks by Representative Kilburn

Of New York

Mr. KILBURN. Mr. Speaker, words of mine are inadequate to express the loss which northern New York has sustained in the passing of my predecessor, the Honorable WALLACE E. PIERCE. The love which his people gave to him, the confidence which they reposed in his judgment and character are tributes which come to few men.

Born in the town of Black Brook in Clinton County, N. Y., in the year 1882, WALLACE E. PIERCE lived all of his life in the mountain and lake country, which he loved. The neighbors of his youth were his lifelong friends and to them his service was dedicated. Near the close of his career his people gave him, in his election to the Congress of the United States, the highest office within their power and now that he has gone, they will not forget his integrity, his faith in them, and his friendship for the least of them.

Early in his career Mr. PIERCE completed his preparation for teaching in the State Normal School in Plattsburg. He retained a permanent affection and interest in his alma mater and for years was president of its board of visitors and active in its support. After his graduation he taught in the rural schools of Clinton and St. Lawrence Counties, an almost traditional preparation for so many of America's statesmen. His early political training was obtained not in the school of political theory but rather in his duties as secretary to two of his predecessors, Congressmen George R. Malby and Edwin A. Merritt. In 1914 he was admitted

to the bar and practiced his profession in the city of Plattsburg until his death. His legal career early placed him as an outstanding member of his profession in northern New York. In 1917–18–19 he was elected as member of assembly from Clinton County and he served as chairman of the Clinton County Republican Committee for 15 years. Since 1935 he was a member of the State executive committee of the Republican State Committee, and in 1938 he was elected to Congress from the Thirty-first Congressional District. These are the bare outlines, the visible evidence of his distinguished career, but WALLACE E. PIERCE will be remembered by his people for the deeper, intangible characteristics which made the man. His belief in the American way of life, his balanced judgment, his lovable personality, and above all his gift of true and lasting friendship found a heartfelt response from his people. It was their unerring instinct which discovered in him the qualities of leadership and they were steadfast in their devotion.

As yet his loss is too recent, and the grief of his people too immediate, to fully understand the heritage which WALLACE E. PIERCE has left to northern New York. His civic leadership, the enduring quality of his achievements, the complete selflessness of his service will increasingly be understood as his work, which lives after him, comes to its fruition.

The greatness of a community, a State, or a nation cannot be more than the character of the men who compose it. It is the tradition and the significance of America that it can produce such men and that our people can give them recognition. WALLACE E. PIERCE was a statesman in the true sense of the term. We as a people are better because he lived among us.

Mr. KILBURN. Mr. Speaker, under leave to extend my remarks in the Record, I include the following remarks by the Honorable James M. Mead, United States Senator from

WALLACE EDGAR PIERCE

New York, in memory of the late Honorable WALLACE E. PIERCE, a distinguished Member of the House of Representatives:

I pay respectful tribute to the memory of the Honorable WALLACE E. PIERCE, Member of Congress from the Thirty-first Congressional District of New York State, whose death came as a shock to his many newly found friends in the Congress. We served together only a short time, but I recognized his fine ability, his splendid talent, and his unquestioned integrity.

WALLACE E. PIERCE was born in Black Brook, Clinton County, N. Y., and grew up in the vast northern area of the Empire State. He served as a legislator in New York State and won high honor in the pursuits of law.

Lawyer, legislator, and statesman, he was well known and beloved in the city of Plattsburg, which he claimed as his home. He was elected to the House of Representatives in 1938, succeeding the Honorable Bertram Snell who had retired, but unfortunately, Representative PIERCE's career at Washington was brief. However, during his service here, he collected many friends in both political parties and established himself as a man of great character, superb qualities, and earnest ability.

Remarks by Representative Douglas

Of New York

Mr. DOUGLAS. Mr. Speaker, words are a feeble gesture on an occasion such as this. We often think we can command the proper words to express ourselves, but could I call on a limitless vocabulary, I am sure when I try to speak about my beloved friend, WALLACE E. PIERCE, words would seem inadequate to express my fealings of bereavement, sympathy, and appreciation.

No words of mine are needed to endear him to you or for him to have the place he rightfully occupies in the community and in the country.

His entire existence was hallowed with the love of his Creator and man and consecrated with the helpfulness of those in distress and cheer for those struggling out of despair. Ever dedicated to the cause of human freedom, he struck off the shackles of unmerciful dominion wherever he found them.

WALLACE PIERCE was a strong and vigorous American, conservative without being reactionary. Possessing a keen mind and a great force of character, he applied himself industriously to the study of national affairs. He led a useful, patriotic life, and it is a great sorrow to us all that so young a man was not spared to enjoy the brilliant future that lay before him.

Memories of his noble endeavor, of his geniality, and of our pleasant associations shall linger so long as we survive. The Congress can ill spare men of his kind.

Remarks by Representative Guyer

Of Kansas

Mr. GUYER of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, under leave to extend my remarks in the Record, I include the following resolution adopted by the Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives with reference to the late Representative WALLACE E. PIERCE, of New York:

The Committee on the Judiciary hereby records its profound sorrow and deep grief in the loss of its distinguished and beloved member, Hon. WALLACE E. PIERCE, of New York.

Mr. PIERCE became a Member of the Seventy-sixth Congress on January 3, 1939, and soon after became a member of the Committee on the Judiciary. While Mr. PIERCE was only a Member of Congress 1 year, having died on the first anniversary of his taking the oath of office, he endeared himself to his fellow Members by his engaging personality and the generosity and warmth of his friendship. He was sincere, honest, and learned in the law, and was one of the ablest members of the committee, and his death will cause a great loss to the public service: Wherefore be it

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary record with profound sorrow and deep regret the passing of our colleague, Hon. WALLACE E. PIERCE; and

Resolved further, That these resolutions be spread at large on the minutes of the committee, and that a copy thereof be transmitted to the bereaved family.

Remarks by Representative Gwynne

Of Iowa

Mr. GWYNNE. Mr. Speaker, the Honorable WALLACE E. PIERCE came to the House of Representatives at the beginning of the Seventy-sixth Congress. Shortly thereafter he was made a member of the Judiciary Committee. Both in this committee and in the House he displayed an understanding of his duties which soon made him a valuable member. He was a lawyer of ability and considered legislation from the practical standpoint of a man who had actually made law function. The strength of his own views in no way, however, hampered his careful consideration of the viewpoints of others. He was extremely friendly and courteous and in his short career in Congress made many friends who mourn his untimely death.

Remarks by Representative Culkin

Of New York

Mr. CULKIN. Mr. Speaker, the untimely taking away of the Honorable WALLACE E. PIERCE, of the Thirty-first Congressional District of New York, caused universal grief, not only in Congress but throughout the whole State of New York.

Measured by time, his service in Congress was all too brief, but during the period of his service he made his way into the hearts of his colleagues. Blessed by a charming personality, a thorough knowledge of public affairs, and an intense loyalty to his constituents, he was rapidly making a place for himself in the councils of his party and the whole Congress.

Congressman PIERCE's district abuts on the district that I have the honor to represent, and problems of the two districts are more or less similar. From the beginning of his service we collaborated together continually as to the problems of our districts. I was impressed from the beginning with the clarity of his viewpoint and his effective grasp of all public questions. He was a trained and able lawyer, and his service on the Judiciary Committee was marked with outstanding contributions to sound legislation and adherence to constitutional forms.

I had the honor to attend his funeral at his home city of Plattsburg, N. Y. Never have I seen such overwhelming demonstration of universal grief. People in every walk of life, the rich and poor, paid tribute to WALLY PIERCE's memory and to his splendid qualities of mind and heart.

Remarks by Representative Monkiewicz

Of Connecticut

Mr. MONKIEWICZ. Mr. Speaker, the death of WALLACE E. PIERCE affected me deeply. He and I were elected to the Seventy-sixth Congress as new Members, and we were both assigned to the Judiciary Committee where we sat next to each other during the first session. During this period I became very much attached to him.

There are certain events which remain in one's memory forever because of the effect they have and the part they play in one's life. I knew WALLACE E. PIERCE for a short time only. In fact, it was so brief that it seems as if his presence in my life were like the coming and going of the pleasant glow of sunshine between rainy periods. It was like a drink of fresh, cool water to one spending days in a desert. I had known him for only 1 year, but within that brief period the benefits derived from my association with him were immeasurable. He was inspiring to his associates, loyal to his friends, learned in his profession, and honorable in both his public and private life. He was retiring by nature and unassuming in manner, yet one need not have known him very long to discover the strong character and sound judgment behind that pleasant smile.

WALLACE PIERCE never wasted words. His remarks, whether in committee or on the floor of the House, were brief but to the point. Sound thought, profound wisdom and intellect were found in his discussions of legislation.

His life was as beautiful as it was wholesome. He was devoted to his family. I shall ever remember how happy he was on Friday mornings in Judiciary Committee when, at the end of the day's session, he was expecting to leave for Chicago for a week-end visit with his daughter and granddaughter. While always busy and occupied, he seemed to be looking forward to those cherished moments.

His career as a statesman was cut short by his ultimely demise. We, who remain, can only console ourselves with the beautiful memories that he leaves with us.

Remarks by Representative Hancock

Of New York

Mr. HANCOCK. Mr. Speaker, when the third session of the Seventy-sixth Congress met at noon on January 3 to transact routine business and to listen to the President's address on the state of the Union, WALLACE PIERCE was present, cordially greeting his many friends in the House. He was cheerful and courteous, as always, and if he felt any physical distress he concealed it. And yet, before we left our offices that evening we learned that WALLY PIERCE was dead. To those of us who had seen him that afternoon it was almost unbelievable, though a sad fact.

He had just passed his fifty-eighth birthday. There was every reason to believe that many years of his useful life lay before him, but he was struck down as if by lightning. We who survive him cannot but meditate and wonder about the inscrutable ways of providence, which takes away so many fine and valuable men and women in the prime of life and permits the miserable and infirm to linger on in an unhappy, burdensome, and useless existence.

WALLY PIERCE had served but 1 year in the House of Representatives, but that was long enough to impress upon his colleagues the strength of his character, his ability as a lawyer and a legislator, and the depth and purity of his Americanism.

For many years before he was elected to Congress I had known WALLY PIERCE as a leading lawyer in northern New York and a strong political leader in that section. In the 1 year I was privileged to serve with him in the House and on the Judiciary Committee, I came to know him as a delightful and cultured companion, a man with the highest conception of legal and personal ethics, and as a man with a deep desire to serve his country and his fellow man.

He was modest and unselfish. He never sought the limelight, but he shirked no responsibility. He was the kind of American we need in public office, and can ill afford to lose.

Remarks by Representative Taber

Of New York

Mr. TABER. Mr. Speaker, WALLACE E. PIERCE came to Congress in mature years after a long and successful career as an active trial lawyer. He readily made his place in the House, where he was held in the highest esteem. He took a prominent part in the work of the Judiciary Committee. Although he was serving his first term, he was a very valuable legislator.

His personal friendships were as varied and as devoted as those of any man on the floor, and I know of no one who has created so fine an impression in the time that he served here.

Remarks by Representative Springer

Of Indiana

Mr. SPRINGER. Mr. Speaker, it is with a keen sense of a great personal loss that I rise to add my humble tribute to the life and character of my devoted friend, the late WALLACE E. PIERCE, of New York. I am happy to have extended to me the very high privilege of bearing witness to the very high esteem and the deep and abiding affection with which our colleague of former days was held by the Members of the House of Representatives, and with that treasured memory I speak these few words of my colleague who was a good citizen, a great patriot, a constant humanitarian, an outstanding statesman, and a fine and loyal friend.

Representative WALLACE E. PIERCE was a native of the great State of New York. He loved the entire area of that Commonwealth. The people were his friends, and he was the friend of the people. There he enjoyed the pleasantries of youth, the institutions of learning, and as a young and progressive lawyer he met the privations and hardships incident to his early practice; thus he became deep-rooted in his great affection for those about him. The people of his State quickly learned that he was a stanch and loyal friend in whom was reposed the choicest ideals of life.

Our acquaintance began when we were assigned to the Judiciary Committee in the House of Representatives in January 1939. In our very close association thereafter I came to recognize in him those rare qualities which directly appeal to men. I knew him in the intimacies of those close contacts which are forever reserved by each one of us for but a few. I knew him in the stress of great turmoil when the multitudinous worries incident to the deliberation on weighty questions of state were at hand; I knew him, too, in the solemn meditations of sadness—when the heart bleeds

and the somber voice pleads for rest and solace; I knew him when he voiced his meditations and sound logic respecting the future of his country—the land he loved and the form of government he professed with unerring devotion. He was as kindly as he was brave. Thus I knew WALLACE E. PIERCE, my friend in the days gone by.

My fine friend, whose memory I will long cherish, lived as he died—and he died as he lived—with the weight of livid problems of the people before him. He was at his post of duty when the silent summons came; he was unafraid; he silently stole away from his colleagues and his labors, in the Chamber of the House of Representatives, and calmly wrapped the draperies of his couch about him, in the Nation's Capitol, and laid down as if to peaceful, happy dreams.

Thus his life work was ended. The brilliant career of a brilliant man was thus terminated.

WALLACE E. PIERCE needs no encomium. His life and his living of it stand before us in beauty and in splendor. My tribute to him I give in the words which were spoken of a great hero—in the days gone by—"This was a man."

Remarks by Representative Rich

Of Pennsylvania

Mr. RICH. Mr. Speaker, I wish to join in paying tribute to the memory of my late colleague and fellow Member, WALLACE E. PIERCE, from the State of New York. Throughout his career of public service he gave himself unstintingly in the performance of his many and arduous duties. His sterling personal qualities and outstanding ability won for him the esteem and respect of all with whom he came in contact. It has been my privilege and pleasure to know and work with WALLACE PIERCE. His death came as a great shock to his host of friends throughout the Nation. His life was marked by many worthy achievements and his name will long be remembered as that of one who wrought much and well for the district in which he lived and the State and Nation to whom he devoted his life.

Remarks by Representative Bender

Of Ohio

Mr. BENDER. Mr. Speaker, the United States House of Representatives has lost one of its most promising Congressmen in the death of WALLACE E. PIERCE, of New York.

Congressman PIERCE died a few hours after the conclusion of President Roosevelt's opening remarks at the reconvening of Congress in January 1940.

WALLACE PIERCE was born in Clinton County, N. Y., on December 9, 1881, and lived in the county of his birth all his life. He served in the New York State Legislature from 1917 to 1919, and was a leading member of the bar throughout his career. Always an active Republican, he served as chairman of the Clinton County Republican committee and as a member of the executive committee of the New York State Republican organization. Representative PIERCE was elected to the House of Representatives on November 8, 1938.

His sudden and shocking death means the loss of a potential leader in the United States Congress and a leading member of the Republican Party. In a day when we need men of his outstanding caliber our regret at his departure cannot be measured in words or sympathy.

Remarks by Representative Vreeland

Of New Jersey

Mr. VREELAND. Mr. Speaker, it was my extreme privilege and honor to have known and associated with the Honorable WALLACE E. PIERCE, late of the Thirty-first District of New York.

In the short space of a year, through association not only on the floor but at the weekly meetings of the Wednesday Night Club, it was my pleasure to know and appreciate the fine character, ability, and knowledge of him whom we knew better as Wally. His thoughtfulness, graciousness, and desire to be of service to any of his friends were always foremost in his everyday task.

Last summer I had the privilege of spending 2 weeks in his congressional district on attending the Army maneuvers at Plattsburg and there found the high esteem that was had for him by all of his constituents and the high regard and respect for his ability that was evidenced by all who came in contact with him.

His passing was a great loss not only to his district but to the Congress and our country, and his will be a bright but difficult example for we who remain to live up to.

Remarks by Representative Michener

Of Michigan

Mr. MICHENER. Mr. Speaker, when WALLACE E. PIERCE left us the Congress lost one of its most promising Members. One's ability of accomplishment in the Congress depends primarily upon one thing; that is, he must have the confidence of his colleagues. It matters not how capable, industrious, or clever a Member may be, if he lacks integrity of character, his associates here soon find it out. Although Mr. PIERCE had not yet finished his first term when he answered the final summons, he had established himself in the confidence of his colleagues. The fact that he succeeded and was sponsored by an illustrious predecessor—the former chairman of the Rules Committee and minority leader, Bertrand H. Snell—was most helpful to him. He lived up to every prediction made by Mr. Snell. He received the unusual honor of being assigned to the Judiciary Committee during his first term, and it was in this committee where I became intimately acquainted with him. He was a gentleman in every particular. He was an outstanding lawyer—made so by broad and practical experience. He was a resourceful debater. He possessed splendid judgment. Unlike many Members, he knew when to speak and when not to speak. He was, therefore, effective and appreciated.

His own congressional district, the great State of New York, and the country at large lost a worth-while Member of Congress when WALLACE E. PIERCE was called away.

Proceedings
in the
House of Representatives

Proceedings in the House

THURSDAY, *January 4, 1940.*

The Chaplain, Rev. James Shera Montgomery, D. D., offered the following prayer:

Great art Thou, O Lord, and greatly to be praised; great is Thy power, and of Thy wisdom there is no end. We thank Thee for the blessed boon of life with all its hopes and promises. The value of this world to Thee, O God, is not in silver and gold but in good men. Another of our own has fallen. The sands of life run swiftly; we know not when the silver cord shall be loosed, the golden bowl broken. Heavenly Father, we rejoice that it is reasonable to trust the power that has made a mother. So—

I know not where His islands lift
Their fronded palms in air;
I only know I cannot drift
Beyond His love and care.

So I sit beside the silent sea
And wait the muffled oar.
No harm from Him can come to me
On ocean or on shore.

Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Mr. REED of New York. Mr. Speaker, it is my sad duty to announce the death of Hon. WALLACE E. PIERCE, a Member of the House of Representatives from the State of New York. At a later date I shall ask the House to set aside a day on which tribute may be paid to the life, character, and public services of our distinguished colleague. At this time I offer the resolution which I send to the desk.

The Clerk read (H. Res. 339) as follows:

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of Hon. WALLACE E. PIERCE, a Representative from the State of New York.

Resolved, That a committee of four Members of the House, with such Members of the Senate as may be joined, be appointed to attend the funeral.

Resolved, That the Sergeant at Arms of the House be authorized and directed to take such steps as may be necessary for carrying out the provision of these resolutions and that the necessary expenses in connection therewith be paid out of the contingent fund of the House.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The resolution was agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the following committee, which the Clerk will report.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Culkin, Mr. Rockefeller, Mr. Leonard W. Hall, Mr. Monkiewicz.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the remainder of the resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect the House do now adjourn.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The resolution was agreed to.

Accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 14 minutes p. m.), in accordance with the order heretofore made, the House adjourned until Monday, January 8, 1940, at 12 o'clock noon.

WALLACE EDGAR PIERCE

MONDAY, *January 8, 1940.*

A message from the Senate, by Mr. Frazier, its legislative clerk, announced that the Senate had passed the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of Hon. WALLACE E. PIERCE, late a Representative from the State of New York.

Resolved, That a committee of two Senators be appointed by the Vice President to join the committee to be appointed on the part of the House of Representatives to attend the funeral of the deceased Representative.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Pursuant to the foregoing, the President pro tempore appointed Mr. Wagner and Mr. Mead as members of the said committee on the part of the Senate.

Proceedings
in the
United States Senate

Proceedings in the Senate

THURSDAY, *January 4, 1940.*

Mr. MEAD. Mr. President, I regret to announce to the Senate the death of Hon. WALLACE E. PIERCE, late a Representative from the State of New York. Representative Pierce died suddenly yesterday. Therefore a message has not as yet arrived from the House. However, in connection with his death, while we are considering resolutions of this character, I send to the desk a resolution which I ask to have read and for which I ask immediate consideration.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The resolution will be read.

The resolution (S. Res. 210) was read, considered by unanimous consent, and unanimously agreed to, as follows:

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of Hon. WALLACE E. PIERCE, late a Representative from the State of New York.

Resolved, That a committee of two Senators be appointed by the Vice President to join the committee to be appointed on the part of the House of Representatives to attend the funeral of the deceased Representative.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair appoints the Senators from New York [Mr. Wagner and Mr. Mead] members of the committee.

Mr. BARKLEY. Mr. President, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Member of the House I move that the Senate do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; and (at 1 o'clock p. m.) the Senate adjourned, the adjournment being under the order previously entered, until Monday, January 8, 1940, at 12 o'clock meridian.

MONDAY, *January 8, 1940.*

A message from the House of Representatives, by Mr. Calloway, one of its reading clerks, communicated to the Senate the resolutions of the House adopted as a tribute to the memory of Hon. WALLACE E. PIERCE, late a Representative from the State of New York, and also announced that the Speaker had appointed a committee of the House to join with the committee of the Senate heretofore appointed to attend the funeral of the deceased Representative.

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